



Distant Dreams (Ribbons of Steel)

By Judith Pella, Tracie Peterson

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The year is 1835 and Carolina Adams finds herself enchanted by an unlikely suitor. . .the railroad. Frustrated by society's expectations upon her gender, she longs to study more masculine subjects and is thrilled when her father grants her a tutor. James Baldwin arrives to serve as Carolina's teacher, but of more importance, he is to court Carolina's beautiful older sister, Virginia. Will expectations and Virginia's southern charm elicit the hoped-for proposal? Or will James and Carolina dare to acknowledge the mutual interests and feelings growing between them?

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Distant Dreams (Ribbons of Steel) By Judith Pella, Tracie Peterson Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #646165 in Books
- Brand: Baker Pub Group/Baker Books
- Published on: 2009-08-01
- Released on: 2009-08-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.25" h x .94" w x 5.50" l, .85 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 416 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

YA. Andrew Jackson's presidency and accompanying intrigue form the historical setting for this novel. An almost consuming curiosity about things mechanical, and especially the new railroad, creates frequent conflicts for 15-year-old Carolina Adams. The inquisitive teen faces daily challenges from her family and peers in an age when it is feared that too much education may "cause insanity in women." Fascination for the sight, sound, and even the smell of locomotives isolates the young woman from her convention-bound mother and brings ridicule from her older, socially conscious sister. Only her father and her sister's fiance share her enthusiasm for this new iron monster and seem sympathetic to her appetite for information. Solvency of the national bank, westward expansion, and the wisdom of investing in railroad construction are at issue in this first volume of the series. Subplots include tension in gender roles, parental power, and sibling rivalry—all topics as viable in the 1990s as in the 1830s.—Janice DeLong, Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA
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From Library Journal

In a promising start to a new historical series, Pella (*Blind Faith*, Bethany, 1996) and Peterson (*Entangled*, Bethany, 1997) deliver an entertaining story with a dynamic female lead character. Carolina Adams is 15 years old in 1835, and the life of a typical woman in the South is not what she wants. She has become entranced with the new railroad, as is her tutor, James Baldwin. The two are attracted, but James bows to his family's wishes and becomes engaged to Carolina's older sister. When James breaks off the engagement to follow the railroad westward, Carolina puts their relationship in the hands of God. The ending does leave readers hanging, so expect a demand for the sequels.
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About the Author

Judith Pella is a best selling author whose writing career spans two decades and more than thirty novels. Her degrees in teaching and nursing lend depth to her tales, which span a variety of settings. She and her husband make their home in Scapoose, Oregon. Tracie Peterson is the best selling, award winning author of more than 70 novels. Tracie also teaches writing workshops at a variety of conferences on subjects such as inspirational romance and historical research. She and her family live in Belgrade, Montana.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Katherine Levy:

Distant Dreams (Ribbons of Steel) can be one of your starter books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in language, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to put every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing Distant Dreams (Ribbons of Steel) although doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource information that maybe you can be one of it. This great information can drawn you into new stage of crucial thinking.

James Kyles:

Your reading sixth sense will not betray a person, why because this Distant Dreams (Ribbons of Steel) guide written by well-known writer who really knows well how to make book which can be understand by anyone who also read the book. Written within good manner for you, leaking every ideas and composing skill only for eliminate your hunger then you still skepticism Distant Dreams (Ribbons of Steel) as good book but not only by the cover but also with the content. This is one publication that can break don't assess book by its deal with, so do you still needing a different sixth sense to pick this specific!? Oh come on your looking at sixth sense already said so why you have to listening to yet another sixth sense.

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This Distant Dreams (Ribbons of Steel) is great reserve for you because the content which can be full of information for you who also always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. This kind of book reveal it info accurately using great arrange word or we can point out no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read that hurriedly you can have whole details in it. Doesn't mean it only offers you straight forward sentences but hard core information with splendid delivering sentences. Having Distant Dreams (Ribbons of Steel) in your hand like getting the world in your arm, information in it is not ridiculous one. We can say that no guide that offer you world in ten or fifteen tiny right but this publication already do that. So , this can be good reading book. Hey there Mr. and Mrs. stressful do you still doubt this?

Alicia Cain:

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